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FM SECSTATE VASMOG

TO AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 137089

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: OPRC CH HK JA

SUBJECT: PRESS STATEMENT/BRIEFING ON KINMITT ASIA TRIP

1. FOLLOWING ARE A STATEMENT, PRESS GUIDANCE, EXCERPTS FROM THE APRIL 26, 1991 DAILY PRESS BRIEFING, AND A POSTED QUESTION AND ANSWER CONCERNING THE TRIP BY UNDERSECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS ROBERT M. KINMITT TO HONG KONG, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

2. BEGIN TEXT OF STATEMENT RELEASED APRIL 26, 1991:

UNDER SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS ROBERT M. KINMITT WILL PARTICIPATE IN A 6-7 POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING THAT THE U.K. IS HOSTING IN HONG KONG NEXT WEEK. PRIOR TO THAT MEETING, HE WILL ALSO MEET WITH HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

FOLLOWING HIS MEETINGS IN HONG KONG, UNDER SECRETARY KINMITT WILL GO TO BEIJING, WHERE HE WILL HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH CHINESE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ON THE FULL RANGE OF BILATERAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES OF CONCERN TO EACH COUNTRY.

IN ADDITION TO BRIEFING THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ON THE SECRETARY'S DISCUSSIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND CONTINUING OUR CLOSE DIALOGUE ON PROSPECTS FOR A CAMBODIAN SETTLEMENT, MR. KINMITT WILL RAISE OUR CONCERNS IN THE AREA OF HUMAN RIGHTS, NONPROLIFERATION, AND TRADE.

BEFORE RETURNING HOME, MR. KINMITT WILL VISIT TOKYO FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH JAPANESE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND POLITICAL FIGURES.

3. END TEXT OF STATEMENT. BEGIN TEXT OF PRESS GUIDANCE:

Q: DOESN'T UNDER SECRETARY KINMITT'S TRIP TO CHINA REPRESENT A BACK-TRACKING ON THE ADMINISTRATION'S SANCTIONS AGAINST HIGH-LEVEL VISITS TO THE PRC?

A: NO. IT HAS BEEN CONSISTENT U.S. POLICY TO AUTHORIZE OCCASIONAL HIGH-LEVEL CONTACTS WITH THE CHINESE WHEN IT IS CLEARLY IN OUR INTEREST TO DO SO. FOR EXAMPLE, ASSISTANT

SECRETARY SCHIFFER VISITED BEIJING LAST DECEMBER FOR AN INTENSIVE DISCUSSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES, AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY COLONOW VENT THERE LAST MONTH TO DISCUSS SUCH IMPORTANT REGIONAL ISSUES AS CAMBODIA AND THE GULF.

SECRETARY BAKER AND FOREIGN MINISTER QIAN HAD DISCUSSED THE VALUE OF A SERIES OF SUCH EXCHANGES ON SUBJECTS OF SPECIAL CONCERN, AND VISITS TO CHINA BY UNDER SECRETARIES KINMITT AND BARTHOLOMEW (PENDING) WOULD BE USEFUL IN THAT REGARD.

4. END TEXT OF PRESS GUIDANCE. BEGIN TEXT OF EXCERPTS FROM THE APRIL 26, 1991 PRESS BRIEFING. THE SPOKESMAN WAS RICHARD BOUCHER.

MR. BOUCHER: ...THE NEXT ITEM CONCERNS MR. KINMITT'S TRAVELS. UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS ROBERT M. KINMITT WILL PARTICIPATE IN A 6-7 POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING THAT THE U.K. IS HOSTING IN HONG KONG NEXT WEEK. PRIOR TO THAT MEETING HE WILL ALSO MEET WITH HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

FOLLOWING HIS MEETINGS IN HONG KONG, UNDER SECRETARY KINMITT WILL GO TO BEIJING WHERE HE WILL HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH CHINESE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ON THE FULL RANGE OF BILATERAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES OF CONCERN TO OUR COUNTRY.

IN ADDITION TO BRIEFING THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ON THE SECRETARY'S DISCUSSIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND CONTINUING OUR CLOSE DIALOGUE ON THE PROSPECTS FOR A CAMBODIAN SETTLEMENT, MR. KINMITT WILL RAISE OUR CONCERNS OF HUMAN

RIGHTS, NONPROLIFERATION AND TRADE.

BEFORE RETURNING HOME, MR. KINMITT WILL VISIT TOKYO FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH JAPANESE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND POLITICAL FIGURES.

Q: CAN WE ASK QUESTIONS ON THAT?

MR. BOUCHER: YOU WANT ME TO TAKE QUESTIONS ON THAT? YES.

Q: WHAT ARE YOUR CONCERNS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, MISSILE PROLIFERATION AND TRADE?

MR. BOUCHER: THEY'RE THE CONCERNS THAT I THINK WE'VE OFTEN EXPRESSED FROM THE PODIUM HERE. THE CONCERNS ON HUMAN RIGHTS ARE THE ONES THAT HAVE BEEN RAISED IN THE PAST WITH THE CHINESE BY THE SECRETARY AND OTHERS AND BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHIFFER WHEN HE WAS IN BEIJING LAST DECEMBER, AND IN THE DIALOGUE THAT OUR EMBASSY HAS BEEN HAVING WITH THE CHINESE ON THE SUBJECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

ON PROLIFERATION, I THINK WE'VE SPOKEN MANY TIMES HERE BEFORE ABOUT THE NEED FOR GLOBAL CONTROLS ON THE PROLIFERATION OF VARIOUS ITEMS -- MISSILES, CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND OTHER ITEMS -- AND THIS IS CERTAINLY A HIGH PRIORITY FOR U.S. FOREIGN POLICY AND SOMETHING THAT WE WANT TO DISCUSS WITH THE CHINESE.

Q: WELL, WHAT HAVE THEY BEEN PROLIFERATING?

MR. BOUCHER: AGAIN, GEORGE, I THINK WE'VE TALKED ABOUT

SPECIFIC REPORTS AT TIMES HERE TO SOME EXTENT, BUT I DON'T HAVE A RUNDOWN OF CHINESE SING, IF YOU'RE ASKING FOR THAT. THE QUESTION WILL BE THAT WE BELIEVE THAT ALL COUNTRIES HAVE A VERY COMMON INTEREST IN NOT ENGAGING IN THE PROLIFERATION OF THESE WEAPONS THAT ARE DANGEROUS, PARTICULARLY IN AREAS LIKE THE MIDDLE EAST, AND WE'LL BE TALKING TO THE CHINESE ABOUT THOSE CONCERNS.

Q: IT SEEMS TO ME YOU EXAGGERATED THEM LAST WEEK CONCERNING ALGERIA. I MEAN, ARE THEY DOING ANYTHING WRONG?

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MR. BOUCHER: I DON'T HAVE ANY SUCH LIST FOR YOU NOW, GEORGE.

Q: AND ON TRADE?

MR. BOUCHER: I REALLY DON'T HAVE ANY SPECIFICS ON TRADE AT THIS POINT. WE'VE HAD DELEGATIONS IN CHINA BEFORE TALKING ABOUT INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS. THAT REMAINS A PRIORITY FOR THE UNITED STATES. AND, OF COURSE, THE ISSUE OF OPEN TRADE IS OF CONCERN TO THE UNITED STATES.

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY REACTION TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN WHO YESTERDAY SAID THE UNITED STATES SHOULD BUT OUT OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OBSERVATIONS IT MAKES TOWARD CHINA?

MR. BOUCHER: I BELIEVE THOSE COMMENTS WERE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE PROCESS OF MFN RENEWAL THAT WE GO THROUGH IN THE UNITED STATES BASED ON OUR LAW. I THINK I EXPRESSED OUR VIEWPOINT ON THAT JUST THE OTHER DAY, SO I'LL STICK WITH THAT.

Q: THERE'S SOME VERY NEW ALLEGATIONS ON CHINESE HUMAN RIGHTS -- THAT THEY ARE USING LABOR CAMPS TO PRODUCE PRODUCTS, PARTICULARLY FOR THE AMERICAN MARKET, AND THAT THESE ARE BEING IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED STATES. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THAT?

MR. BOUCHER: I ADDRESSED THAT THE SAME DAY THAT I ADDRESSED OUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS MFN RENEWAL. WE'LL GET THAT FOR YOU FROM THE TRANSCRIPT.

Q: RICHARD, WHAT OFFICIALS WILL MR. KIMMITT BE MEETING WITH? DO YOU HAVE --

MR. BOUCHER: AT THIS POINT I DON'T HAVE A LIST.

Q: DO YOU KNOW WHEN WE WILL BE ARRIVING IN BEIJING?

MR. BOUCHER: LET ME SEE IF I CAN GET THE DATES FOR YOU.

Q: WILL KIMMITT BE DISCUSSING THIS REPORT ON THE USE OF SLAVE LABOR?

MR. BOUCHER: I DON'T KNOW.

Q: DOES THIS MEAN THAT REGINALD BARTHOLOMEW'S PLANNED TRIP IS OFF?

MR. BOUCHER: NO. BARTHOLOMEW'S TRIP IS STILL PENDING. THE SECRETARY AND FOREIGN MINISTER DIAN, IN THEIR MEETINGS LAST FALL, DISCUSSED THE VALUE OF THE SERIES OF EXCHANGES

ON SUBJECTS OF SPECIAL CONCERN AND VISITS TO CHINA BY UNDER SECRETARY KIMMITT AND UNDER SECRETARY BARTHOLOMEW THAT WE THOUGHT WOULD BE USEFUL IN THAT REGARD. BUT THE BARTHOLOMEW TRIP HASN'T BEEN SCHEDULED AT THIS POINT.

...Q: RICHARD, ON THE FLIGHT TO TEHRAN, WILL THERE BE ANY AMERICAN OFFICIALS ABOARD THAT CARGO PLANE?

MR. BOUCHER: WELL, IT'S AN AIR FORCE AIRPLANE AND THE PILOTS AND OTHERS ARE U.S. GOVERNMENT PEOPLE. YOU MEAN SOME SORT OF HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATE OR OFFICIAL LIKE THAT? I DON'T THINK THERE IS ANY. I THINK IT'S JUST THE PEOPLE WHO HANDLE THE AIRPLANE AND HANDLE THE CARGO.

Q: KIMMITT IS NOT ON THE FLIGHT, IS HE?

MR. BOUCHER: NO, HE IS NOT ON THAT FLIGHT.

Q: KIMMITT IS THE MOST SENIOR PERSON TO GO TO BEIJING SINCE WHO AND WHEN?

Q: EAGLEBURGER-SCOWCROFT DECEMBER '89.

MR. BOUCHER: THERE YOU GO. I GUESS. I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING DIFFERENT THAN THAT. OF COURSE, YOU KNOW THE SECRETARY'S MET ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS WITH THE CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER -- LAST FALL IN CAIRO, NEW YORK, AND WASHINGTON. HE MET ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS.

Q: SO I GUESS THE BAN ON HIGH-LEVEL CONTACTS IS NOW OVER SINCE HE'S ACTUALLY TAKING A TRIP TO BEIJING?

MR. BOUCHER: NO, CHRIS. NO, YOU GOT THAT ONE WRONG. SORRY.

LET ME TELL YOU ONE MORE THING. IT HAS BEEN CONSISTENT U.S. POLICY TO AUTHORIZE OCCASIONAL HIGH-LEVEL CONTACTS WITH THE CHINESE WHEN IT'S CLEARLY IN OUR INTERESTS TO DO SO. FOR EXAMPLE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHIFTER VISITED BEIJING LAST DECEMBER FOR AN INTENSIVE DISCUSSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES, AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY SOLOMON WENT THERE LAST MONTH TO DISCUSS IMPORTANT REGIONAL ISSUES SUCH AS CAMBODIA AND THE GULF.

Q: THIS IS ONE OF THESE BANS THAT'S MORE HONORED IN THE BREACH THAN IN THE OBSERVING SINCE --

MR. BOUCHER: ALAN, I HATE TO HAVE TO SAY THIS TO YOU, BUT I THINK THIS IS THE SAME THING THAT WE SAID RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNING ABOUT WHAT THE POLICY WAS. THERE WERE CERTAIN HIGH-LEVEL CEREMONIAL EXCHANGES THAT DID NOT TAKE PLACE, THAT WERE CANCELLED. BUT WE HAVE SAID ALL ALONG THAT WHEN WE HAD ISSUES OF CONCERN THAT WE WANTED TO PURSUE, WE'D TO PURSUE WITH THE CHINESE, THAT WE WOULD HAVE APPROPRIATE DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS TO DO THAT, AND THAT'S WHAT WE HAVE BEEN DOING WITH OCCASIONAL HIGH-LEVEL CONTACTS.

Q: SWITCHING BACK TO THE REFUGEES --

Q: CAN I ASK ONE MORE ON CHINA? DO YOU HAVE A LIST THERE OF THE SANCTIONS THAT ARE STILL IN EFFECT?

MR. BOUCHER: NO, I DON'T. NOTHING MUCH HAS CHANGED RECENTLY.

Q: MILITARY SALES, HIGH-LEVEL EXCHANGES OF A CEREMONIAL NATURE; THERE ARE OTHERS BEYOND THAT?

MR. BOUCHER: YES. I DON'T HAVE THE FULL LIST IN MY HEAD, GEORGE. WE'VE SAID IT BEFORE AND IT HASN'T CHANGED. I DIDN'T BRING IT TODAY. I'M SORRY.

Q: WOULD THIS BE THE FIRST TRIP OF A HIGH LEVEL OFFICIAL TO BEIJING SINCE SOLOMON'S VISIT LAST MONTH?

MR. BOUCHER: YES, SINCE LAST MONTH.

Q: ANYBODY ELSE WHO HAS GONE SINCE --

MR. BOUCHER: I'M NOT AWARE OF ANYONE ELSE.

Q: SOLOMON, AT HIS DEPARTING NEWS CONFERENCE, MENTIONED THE "CONCERN" THAT STILL REMAINS BETWEEN BEIJING AND WASHINGTON ON NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION AND SALES TO THIRD

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COUNTRIES. WHAT HAS CHANGED BETWEEN THEN AND NOW THAT WOULD HEIGHTEN YOUR CONCERN OR BE CAUSE FOR KIMMITT TO BE GOING IN PLACE OF BARTHOLEMEW?

MR. BOUCHER: I DIDN'T SAY THAT ANYTHING HAD CHANGED THAT HAD HEIGHTENED OUR CONCERNS. THESE ARE SUBJECTS OF CONTINUING INTEREST TO OUR GOVERNMENT. THEY ARE SUBJECTS THAT WE THINK ARE OF CONTINUING INTEREST TO THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT, AND WE WANT TO PURSUE THESE ISSUES WITH THE

CHINESE. I'M NOT SAYING THAT OUR CONCERNS ARE ANY DIFFERENT THAN THE ONES THAT WE'VE ALWAYS HAD ON THE ISSUE OF PROLIFERATION.

Q: IS KIMMITT, BECAUSE OF HIS POSITION AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT -- HIS PRESENCE THERE, MIGHT BE MORE CONVINCING TO THE CHINESE?

MR. BOUCHER: I THINK I WENT THROUGH THE PURPOSES OF MR. KIMMITT'S VISIT. IT HAS A NUMBER OF PURPOSES, A BROAD RANGE OF ISSUES THAT WILL BE DISCUSSED. WE HAVE A NUMBER OF COMMON INTERESTS WITH THE CHINESE WE'RE PURSUING RIGHT NOW SUCH AS CAMBODIA. WE ALSO HAVE A NUMBER OF ISSUES THAT WE WANT TO RAISE WITH THEM.

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING NEW ON THE POSSIBILITY OF SALES OF NUCLEAR WEAPONRY TO PAKISTAN BY CHINA?

MR. BOUCHER: NO. I DON'T THINK I HAVE HAD ANYTHING OLD ON THE SUBJECT EITHER, MARK.

...Q: COULD YOU GIVE ME MORE INFORMATION ABOUT MR. KIMMITT'S SPEECH IN TOKYO? AND WHAT KIND OF TALKS WILL HE HAVE WITH JAPANESE OFFICIALS?

MR. BOUCHER: HE'LL BE DISCUSSING WITH JAPANESE OFFICIALS A WHOLE BROAD RANGE OF ISSUES, I'M SURE, INCLUDING THE CURRENT RELIEF EFFORTS IN IRAQ, U.N. ACTIVITIES, THE COMMON INTEREST WE HAVE IN REGIONAL ISSUES. I'M SURE IT WILL BE QUITE A BROAD RANGE OF TOPICS.

Q: INCLUDING THE VIETNAM ISSUE?

MR. BOUCHER: I'M SORRY!

Q: THE VIETNAM ISSUE, OR RECENT JAPANESE EFFORTS TO SET UP A BETTER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION?

MR. BOUCHER: I'M SURE THOSE ARE LIKELY ISSUES. I REALLY DON'T HAVE A COMPLETE AGENDA FOR YOU.

Q: RICHARD, THERE WAS A REPORT EARLIER THIS WEEK THAT THE CHINESE LEADER DENG XIAOPING HAD THREATENED TO FLOOD NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES WITH HUNDREDS AND MILLIONS OF CHINESE REFUGEES IF THE WEST CONTINUES TO PRESS BEIJING ON ITS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES. IF THAT REPORT IS TRUE, THE SITUATION COULD BE VERY SERIOUS.

THROUGH THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S TELECOMMUNICATIONS WITH YOUR EMBASSY IN BEIJING, HAVE YOU SEEN ANY REPORT ABOUT SUCH A THREAT?

MR. BOUCHER: I HAVE NOT PERSONALLY SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THAT. I'LL SEE IF THERE IS SOMEBODY THAT HAS SOMETHING, BUT I HAVE NOT SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

...Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT BY THE CAMBODIAN PARTIES THERE?

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MR. BOUCHER: THE PROCESS -- THE PROPOSAL, SHALL I SAY, WAS ONE PUT OUT BY THE U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE PARIS-CAMBODIA CONFERENCE, FRANCE AND

INDONESIA.

EARLIER THIS WEEK, BOTH THE NON-COMMUNIST FORCES OF PRINCE SINANOUK AND THE PHNOM PENH REGIME ACCEPTED THE TRUCE. VIETNAM HAS ALSO ENDORSED THE TRUCE AND THIS MORNING THERE ARE, OF COURSE, REPORTS THAT THE KHMER ROUGE HAS ACCEPTED IT AS WELL.

IT IS A TRUCE THAT WOULD BEGIN ON MAY 1, AND WOULD CONTINUE THROUGH THE NEXT MEETING OF THE CAMBODIAN SUPREME NATIONAL COUNCIL WHICH IS SCHEDULED IN JAKARTA TENTATIVELY IN MID-MAY.

LET ME REMIND YOU, LAST AUGUST THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PERM FIVE CALLED ON THE CAMBODIAN PARTIES TO EXERCISE MAXIMUM SELF-RESTRAINT TO CREATE THE PEACEFUL CLIMATE REQUIRED TO FACILITATE THE ACHIEVEMENT AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMPREHENSIBLE POLITICAL SETTLEMENT. THAT REMAINS OUR POSITION. WE FAVOR SUCH SELF-RESTRAINT, INCLUDING A CEASEFIRE AS WELL AS OTHER VOLUNTARY STEPS TO IMPROVE THE CLIMATE IN WHICH NEGOTIATIONS ARE BEING HELD.

AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, A CEASEFIRE AND OTHER TEMPORARY STEPS WILL BE MOST MEANINGFUL TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY LEAD TO A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, AND WE HOPE THAT THE UPCOMING SUPREME NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING WILL MAKE PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING THAT SETTLEMENT.

5. END EXCERPTS FROM THE APRIL 26 BRIEFING. BEGIN TEXT OF QUESTION AND ANSWER POSTED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOLLOWING THE PRESS BRIEFING:

Q: WHEN WILL MR. KIMMITT BE ARRIVING IN BEIJING TO TALK TO CHINESE OFFICIALS?

A: UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS ROBERT KIMMITT IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN BEIJING FROM HONG KONG MAY 5. HE WILL ALSO BE IN TOKYO MAY 7 TO MAY 9.

6. END TEXT OF POSTED QUESTION AND ANSWER.  
EAGLEBURGER

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